CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (previously presented) A method in a data stream aggregation server for managing transport of multiple data streams from multiple distinct real-time data source servers to a client within a network, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving at said data stream aggregation server an initiation command that specifies a real-time data transfer association between the client and the data stream aggregation server for transfer of a plurality of data streams between the client and data stream aggregation server , wherein said data transfer association conforms to a transmission protocol enabling concurrent transmission of multiple related data streams to be delivered independently such that data loss in any of the multiple related data streams does not affect delivery of data in the other data streams, said transmission protocol further enabling multi-homing in which a single connected endpoint of the data transfer association has multiple alternate addresses; and

responsive to said initiation command:

providing each of the data source servers with a range of mutually unique transmission sequence numbers and instructing the data source servers to transmit the data streams within their respective ranges;

responsive to receiving an acknowledgement from one of the data source servers indicating that the client has received a data stream within one of the provided ranges:

providing the one of the data source servers with a new range of transmission sequence numbers; and

instructing the one of the data source servers to transmit the data stream within the new range.

2. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the data transfer association is created as a Stream Control Transmission Protocol (SCTP) association and the multiple source addresses are specified to the client as IP addresses of the data stream aggregation server using the multi-homed feature of the transport protocol.

3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the step of sending stream aggregation commands includes providing each of the data source servers with a stream identification number and an IP address for the client.

4. – 20. (canceled)